

SHRI KRISHAN KANT: I will bring them to you. Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : But no such question arises today. Yes, next question.

#### Demand for Tractors

\*498. SHRI KOTA PUNNAIAH :

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI :f

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR:

SHRI GURUMUKH SINGH

MUSAFIR: SHRI KRISHAN

KANT: DR. Z. A. AHMAD SHRI J.

S. TILAK: SHRI KALI

MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the present State-wise demand for tractors; and

(b) the estimated requirement for the Fifth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. SHER SINGH) : (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

#### Statement

(a) On the basis of the demand registered as on 31st March, 1973 under the Tractor (Distribution and Sale) Control Order with the Agro Industries Corporations and dealers of indigenous tractors and after taking into account the demand from the Director-General, Resettlement for ex-service men and defence personnel and the estimated requirements for Agro Service Centres, Multiple Cropping Projects etc., the de-

mand is estimated to be about 60,000 Nos. State-wise particulars of demand are not readily available.

(b) The National Council of Applied Economic Research who have recently carried out a systematic and scientific study of demand for agricultural tractors of various h.p. ranges over the next few years has estimated the requirement of tractors for the Fifth Five Year Plan period as under ?—

	(in thousands)
1974-75	45
1975-76	52
1976-77	60
1977-78	68
1978-79	78
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>303</b>

श्री गुरुमुख सिंह मुसाफिर : जो स्टेटमेंट टेबल पर रखा गया है उसमें स्टेटवाइज जो डिमांड्स हैं उनके मुताल्लिक कहा गया है कि वह अवेलेबिल नहीं है इसलिए एक सवाल पूछने की जरूरत हुई कि जो स्टेट्स ज्यादा अनाज पैदा करती है—मेरा मतलब पंजाब और हरियाणा से है—क्या उनकी डिमांड्स की तरफ खास तौर पर ख्याल रखा जायगा ट्रक्टर मुहैया करने के लिये ताकि वह सारे देश के लिये अनाज पैदा कर सकें। तो मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि ऐसा कोई विचार है कि उनके मुताल्लिक खास ख्याल रखा जाय।

श्री फखरुद्दीन अली अहमद : जहां तक उन स्टेट्स का ताल्लुक है जो कि ज्यादा अनाज पैदा करती हैं तो ट्रक्टर के ही मामले में ही नहीं बल्कि हर एक इन-पुट के मामले में उनका खयाल रखते हैं और जो हमारे पास चीजें रहती हैं उनमें से ज्यादा से ज्यादा उनको दिया जाता है।

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri A. G. Kulkarni.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT: Sir, the statement says that on the basis of the demand registered as on 31-3-73 with Agro-Industries Corporation, dealers, etc., it is 60,000. Then, Sir, they say that the State-wise demand is not readily available. I do not know how it is calculated. Sir, I would like to know through you, Sir: Is this the way the Parliament should be treated? I am asking you. They have calculated the all-India demand, but they cannot give the State-wise demand. This shows the way the Government is treating Parliament. They give such replies and get away...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Are you putting your question or not ?

SHRI KRISHAN KANT: I am putting, through you, Sir....

SHRI A. P. JAIN: That is a very relevant objection.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT: Sir, you must pull up the Government that this type of reply should not be there. They have calculated on the basis of certain figures in different States. I would like to know, Sir: Before I put my question, can you say something to the Government ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : If you put your question, then I shall know the whole position. You please put your question ...

SHRI PITAMBER DAS : How have they arrived at this figure ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : That will be for the questioner to ask.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT: I would like to know how they arrived at this figure of 60,000. Is it from the air or from the States or from different organizations ? Why can't they give figures

in respect of each State ? I would also like to know whether they know that small horsepower tractors are more in demand and there is a black market also for them, while nobody is going to purchase higher horsepower tractors. Has the demand been computed on the basis of requirement ? What is the equipment of different horse-power tractors ? Even the National Council of Applied Economic Research has given figures ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your question has come.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT: Are they preparing to have their production in the country or are they intending to import them ? How many Tractors are produced in the country at present and how many are lying unutilized ?

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : I would like the hon. Member to appreciate that the demand of tractors is based on the registration being made at several places. First of all, there is the registration with the Agro-Industries Corporation there is the registration with the dealers and indigenous manufacturers; there is also the estimated demand from the Director-General of Resettlement for ex-Service-men, so on and so forth. So, Sir, on these various sources we have calculated the entire demand for the country. Now, about the State-wise figures, I can give a rough estimate. But it is not possible for me to give exact figures. If the hon. Member wants a rough idea about each State, I can certainly give him these figures.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT: I asked other questions also—about the demand of different H.P. tractors, about imports, etc. Is it a fact that some tractors are lying unutilized with Escorts, for which the demand is not there ? Black-

marketing is there. Is your production programme, utilisation programme or import programme based on this diversification and the estimates of horsepower requirement ? What is the present situation ?

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN  
ALI

AHMED: So far as import requirement is concerned, we have made an assessment. There is a demand of nearly 10,000 tractors so far as imported tractors are concerned. So far as indigenous production is concerned, there is some figure of production every year. Till October of 1973-74, I think about 12,000 tractors were produced and I have been given to understand by the Ministry of Heavy Industry that 30,000 tractors will be produced by the end of the year. Therefore, the demand assessed for this year is something in the neighbourhood of 40,000 tractors. Therefore, they will be short by about 10,000 tractors during this year. We have not taken into account the demand pending from previous year and so.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT: I asked you about the horse power.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI  
AHMED: I have not got the details of the different horse powers. If the hon. Member wants, I can lay it on the Table of the House.

SHRI J. S. TILAK: Is it a fact that there is a slump in demand at present and if so, whether it is all over the country or in certain States and also what is the reason for it?

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI  
AHMED : The demand had decreased some time ago. But recently our information is that the demand has again increased.

SHRI N. G. GORAY: Sir, I am puzzled by the figures that have been given here. In paragraph (a), it is stated that the estimated demand for tractors is about 60,000. In paragraph (b), it is stated that in 1974-75, it may be 45,000; and in 1975-76—52,000; in 1976-77— 60,000. I had thought that during the next Plan when we are trying to have more and more agricultural yield, the demand for tractors will grow instead of diminishing. Here we find that while the demand at present is 60,000, next year it will be 45,000. Then after that it will be 52,000 and after 3 years it will rise again to 60,000.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You want this to be explained.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI  
AHMED : If the hon. Member will be pleased to see, he will find from our answer to (b) that this is the estimate made by the National Council of Applied Research and they have not taken into account the demand which is made by the Director General, Resettlement and by other organisations. They have also not taken into account only the requirements of the Agricultural Departments. Therefore, there is this difference between the figure given earlier and the figure in (b). Secondly, so far as the present demand is concerned, it is not limited to the demand for this year. It includes the backlog of the previous years.

SHRI B. K. KAUL: The Minister has rightly stated in his statement about the estimated demand. Had he been a little more clear, he would have said 'actual demand' and the 'estimated demand'.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right.

SHRI B. K. KAUL: His estimated demand is all right. But he has not clearly stated 'actual demand' or 'estimated demand'.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI

AHMED: This is the estimated demand on the basis of what is registered with us.

SHRI T. N. SINGH: Is it not a fact that already the capacity for manufacturing tractors in India by various firms in existence exceeds 40,000? How is it that they are not producing that quantity which is today's requirement according to the NCAER

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI

AHMED : Sir, I do not know why they have not been manufacturing. But it is true that so far as the licensed capacity is concerned, it is much greater than what I have indicated. But they have been able to manufacture only a very small portion of the licensed capacity.

SHRI T. N. SINGH: I specifically want to know whether...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have put your question.

SHRI T. N. SINGH: That is not the answer in regard to that very question because...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you think that the question has not been answered ?

SHRI T. N. SINGH : Yes. MR.

CHAIRMAN: Ail right.

SHRI T. N. SINGH: May I elicit from the hon. Minister whether the reason for their not manufacturing was due to non-availability of foreign exchange to import the necessary spares and components ?

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI

AHMED: I could not follow what the hon. Member said.

SHRI T. N. SINGH: The capacity may be 'x' And it may not be possible to manufacture that quantity because they have to import certain corresponding spares and components. They are not available and that is the reason why they could not manufacture. Is that the reason ?

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI

AHMED: That is not so. So far as my information goes, practically everything is available within the country except some components.

SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR: May

I know from the hon. Minister whether he can say on the floor of the House that they have a specific land reforms policy which will not be changed for the next ten years or so because the requirements of tractors is directly connected to that. May I know from the hon. Minister whether they will not change the rural ceilings again and again during the next ten years ?

क्या जवाब आया है, मैं समझ नहीं पाया हूँ और मैं इस बारे में, आपका प्रोटेक्शन चाहता हूँ ।

What is the answer, Sir ?

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI

AHMED : I said no.

SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR: So, no change ?

SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA:

It is obvious that the figures and estimates as given here may not be strictly correct. But it is clear enough that the demand for tractors is growing and the slump period is over. And it is also clear that we will not be in a position to meet this demand. So, my concrete question is. in order to meet the desire

of the peasants to have tractor-ploughing, will the Government consider it feasible to have a system of 'machine and tractor station' at the block level so that one or two tractors and machines at a block level may be able to serve the interests of the villages in that block level.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are putting too long a question.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI

AHMED : The hon. Member is aware that we have already started the agro-service stations all over the country and through these agro-service stations, it is our objective to serve a large number of areas and not to confine to one farmer or two farmers.

SHRI P. N. BISI : One of the reasons for the tractors to become very costly is that there is no standardization of tractors. And standardization means inter-changeability of parts. That will alone reduce the cost of tractors. I want to know whether the Government is thinking in that direction ?

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI

AHMED : The hon. Member is aware that a large number of licences have already been issued and they are now manufacturing tractors of various horse power, from 20 to 25, then 35 to 40, and so on. There can be no question of standardization because the requirement in the country is not only for one horse power Range tractor but for various horse power Range tractors. If less number of indigenous manufacturers are given the task on that basis, perhaps, that will not be all right. But licences have already been given and we have to live with the situation as at present.

SHRI P. N. BISI : Even now, you can try.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, last question—  
Shri Buragohain.

SHRI NABIN CHANDRA BURA-GOHAIN : Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that tractors from north-eastern States are smuggled out to other parts of the country at higher prices. I want to suggest that a condition may be imposed on every such tractor in the north-eastern States of India against their further sale or transfer in any way at least for a period of two years to prevent such misdeeds.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI

AHMED : Sir, I am not aware of any tractor being smuggled out of the northeastern region to other States. If the hon. Member has any information on this matter, he may please let me know so that I shall take up the matter with the State Governments concerned for plugging such sales or transfers.

श्री ओम प्रकाश त्यागी : क्या लैंड सीलिंग के पश्चात् देश में छोटे ट्रक्टरों की मांग बढ़ गई है ? आपने स्टेटमेंट में 60 हजार ट्रक्टर की मांग बताई है। मैं आपसे जानना चाहता हूँ कि इसमें छोटे ट्रक्टर की मांग कितनी है और बड़े ट्रक्टरों की मांग कितनी है, छोटे ट्रक्टरों का उत्पादन वर्तमान समय में कितना है और कितने ट्रक्टर आप इम्पोर्ट करने का विचार रखते हैं।

श्री फखरुद्दीन अली अहमद : यह तो बिल्कुल ठीक है कि जहाँ तक छोटे ट्रक्टरों का ताल्लुक है, उनकी मांग ज्यादा बढ़ गई है। अभी मेरे पास पूरे आंकड़े नहीं हैं। मैं मेज पर फिगर्स रख दूंगा और उससे पता चल जायगा कि बड़े ट्रक्टर की डिमान्ड कितनी है और छोटे ट्रक्टर की डिमान्ड कितनी है।